

Labor Resources for Prosperity, South Carolina

Executive Summary

This profile contains information about the labor force within a 30 minute and 45 minute commuting distance from the center of Prosperity, South Carolina. Prosperity is located in Newberry County, South Carolina.

The profile examines three issues: labor force characteristics, the availability of labor, and the average wages and salaries in the community of Prosperity.

Labor Situation at a Glance in Prosperity, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	82,596	321,349	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	37,792	153,145	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	2,579	9,758	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	6.8%	6.0%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	2,054	3,817	22,196
Average Wages	Newberry County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$605	\$581	\$658

Labor Force Characteristics for Prosperity, South Carolina

The composition and size of a community's labor force is linked very closely with demographic and economic conditions and trends in the region. The following labor force profile provides basic information on the population base and labor force characteristics so that the reader can better assess labor force conditions in the community.

Labor Force			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force 2004	37,792	153,145	2,046,179
Change since 2000	-3,391	-8,219	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	82,596	321,349	4,198,068
Change since 2000	6,161	18,420	186,056
Projected 2010	155,170	456,773	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	40,543	157,236	2,040,261
Female	42,053	164,113	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	17,689	68,953	875,330
Ages 35-49	17,215	66,603	925,330
Ages 50-64	14,453	56,404	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	40,474	157,577	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	27,873	107,332	778,054
Some College	13,629	54,851	500,194
Associate Degree	5,481	21,859	173,428
Bachelors Degree	9,778	39,771	351,526
Post Bachelor	4,823	17,932	178,529

**Prime working age group:*
People between the ages of 18-54 are often referred to as the prime working age group. In staffing a new facility, prudent managers often prefer to staff its production work force with workers whose ages form a normal distribution curve. This provides for stability, flexibility and continuity of knowledge.

Source: 2004 Estimates Based on 2000 U.S. Census of Population and
Woods and Poole, 2003 Edition

Employment Characteristics for Prosperity, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	35,213	143,387	1,906,571

Total Employment data include all full and part-time wage and salaried workers in the area. These people may or may not reside in the area.

Monthly Employment by Sector In Newberry County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	168	756	12,379
Mining	66	223	1,603
Utilities	108	478	11,891
Construction	3,553	10,222	111,730
Manufacturing	14,782	38,666	275,573
Wood product manufacturing	210	694	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	401	1,232	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	106	315	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	1,054	3,362	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	1,335	2,986	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	143	694	7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	382	1,096	10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	2,026	5,879	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	56	212	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	914	1,595	7,846
Food manufacturing	447	1,868	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing			1,445
Textile mills	1,224	3,692	40,207
Textile product mills	243	718	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	125	198	5,321
Paper manufacturing	392	1,217	14,710
Printing and related support activities	316	1,058	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	443	1,348	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	768	2,334	23,054
Wholesale Trade	2,365	7,460	62,523
Retail Trade	6,692	19,835	224,031
Transportation and Warehousing	1,330	4,642	46,941
Education and Health Services	10,042	30,116	156,232
Leisure and Hospitality	4,955	14,610	192,748
Professional and Business Services	3,999	12,814	186,481

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In Newberry County				
Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
Louis Rich	Newberry	Processed turkey	1,236	1972
Renfro Corp-Whitmire Plt	Whitmire	Hosiery	560	1993
Sea-Pro Boats Inc	Newberry	Boat building & repairs	300	1988
Georgia Pacific Corp	Prosperity	Southern pine plywood	287	1975
Thomas & Howard Co	Newberry	Food distribution	250	
International Paper-Newberry Mill	Newberry	Lumber	178	1946
McKechnie Vehicle Components	Newberry	Automotive wheel trim	171	1981
American Fiber & Finishing Inc	Newberry	Woven industrial fabrics	150	1986
ISE Newberry Inc	Newberry	Egg products & processing	150	1982
PCA	Newberry	Corrugated shipping containers	110	1966
Trucast Inc	Newberry	Turbo charger wheels	104	1996
Georgia Pacific Corp	Prosperity	Lumber & chips	100	1973
Komatsu America Corp, Newberry Mfg Op	Newberry	Backhoe loaders	82	2001
MacLean Fiberglass	Newberry	Fiberglass reinforced plastics	82	1981
International Paper	Prosperity	Extrusion coated paperboard	81	1990
Kiswire	Newberry	Bead wire	75	1997
SBFI	Newberry	Trading desks	69	1991
Metal Masters Inc	Newberry	Precision machine parts	50	1973
Pleasurecraft Marine Engine Co	Little Mountain	Marine engines	48	1983
Charles K Doolittle Inc	Newberry	Logging	45	1974

Employer-Employee Relationship

Employer-employee relations in South Carolina are very stable and the state consistently ranks as one of the least unionized in the nation. In 2004, only 4.5 percent of the state's workers were members of a labor union. Additionally, the state has consistently had one of the lowest work stoppage rates in the United States. On average, less than .01 percent of working time was lost due to strikes in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries combined.

Availability of Labor

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force (2004)	37,792	153,145	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	-3,391	-8,219	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	46%	48%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	2,579	9,758	139,607
Unemployment Rate	6.8%	6.0%	6.8%

The *labor force participation* rate is the percentage which results from dividing the labor force count by the total population.

Unemployment reflects the total number of persons who do not have a job and are actively seeking employment.

Other Potential Sources of Labor Supply

Total Jobs Lost Due to Mass Closings and Layoffs Past Two Years			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Total	2,054	3,817	22,196
Manufacturing	1,916	3,493	19,196
Distribution	110	276	1,213
Service	28	49	1,745
Other	-	-	42

Recent closings and layoffs are a rich source of skilled and experienced labor for companies seeking to locate or expand in a given area. Industries in which layoffs and closings occur can provide some indication of the skills and knowledge-base of many unemployed and underemployed workers in a region.

Commuters to Other Areas			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Commuters to other areas	12,664	51,079	31,833

Source: 2000 U.S. Census of Population

Workers commuting to places outside their residence are a significant source of experienced labor for new and expanding industries. These workers may be willing to consider an opportunity for employment nearer their place of residence.

Recent Graduates of South Carolina's Colleges and Universities

Certificates/Degrees Conferred From Technical Colleges in Select Degrees Within 45 Minute Drive Time of Newberry County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	441
Data Processing Technology	246
Engineering Technologies (Total)	259
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	77
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	2
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	267
Industrial Electronics	86
HVAC	85
Precision Production (Total)	319
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	110

Graduation From South Carolina's Four Year Colleges and Universities In Select Degrees		
	Degrees Conferred (2002-2004)	
	Bachelors	Post- Grad
Computer and Information Science (Total)	910	108
Computer Engineering	150	149
Computer Programming	12	5
Engineering & Related Technologies (Total)	1,316	786
Chemical Engineering	136	38
Electrical Engineering	257	150
Industrial Engineering	78	44
Mechanical Engineering	268	95
Business Admin & Management	4,754	1,018
International Business/Trade	178	276

Source: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Wages and Salaries

Average Wage and Salary Comparison			
Sector	Newberry County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$605	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$31,454	\$30,240	\$37,508
Avg. Hourly Prod. Wages**	N/A	\$14.73	\$16.14

*Covered Wages and Employment, 2003, SC Employment Securities Commission

** Employment & Earnings, 2004, U.S. Department of Labor

Average Annual Salary Manufacturing Sectors, 2004		
Sector	Newberry County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$34,607	\$39,027
Wood product	\$25,591	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	***	\$39,031
Primary metal	***	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	\$34,319	\$37,533
Machinery	\$38,633	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	***	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	***	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	***	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	\$16,594	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	\$33,722	\$34,350
Food	***	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	***	\$31,898
Textile product mills	***	\$25,618
Apparel	\$32,654	\$23,705
Paper	***	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	***	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	***	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	***	\$46,620

***Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

Occupational Wages In Prosperity and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Newberry County Area*			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	*	*	*
Butchers and Meat Cutters	*	*	*
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	*	*	*
Chemical Equipment Operators	*	*	*
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	*	*	*
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	\$9.97	\$11.63	13.39
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	*	*	*
Logging Equipment Operators	\$9.80	\$11.81	13.64
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$11.17	\$14.25	16.9
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	\$11.07	\$12.82	14.72
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	\$12.46	\$14.49	16.33
Machinists	\$11.68	\$13.85	16.14
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	\$8.42	\$10.84	13.95
Molding & Casting Machine Op	\$8.05	\$10.05	12.28
Sewing Machine Operators	\$6.70	\$9.02	10.67
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$9.09	\$10.47	12.09
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$12.11	\$14.95	16.78
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$11.82	\$13.80	15.73
Woodworking Machine Setters	\$9.02	\$10.77	12.66
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Newberry County Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	\$46,820	\$55,460	\$66,020
Computer Programmers	\$32,400	\$40,960	\$49,560
Engineers, NEC	\$45,360	\$49,520	\$56,100
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$30,240	\$39,140	\$46,920
Industrial Engineers	\$43,060	\$50,620	\$59,020
Mechanical Engineers	\$49,380	\$56,920	\$63,920

Source: *Occupational Wage Survey*, SC Employment Security Commission

* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available